

PETITION

OF

CITIZENS OF SANTA ROSAS COUNTY, FLORIDA,

In relation to the disposition of the public lands:

FEBRUARY 11, 1848.

Ordered to be printed.

FREEDOM OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.

"The land shall not be sold forever; for THE LAND IS MINE, and ye are strangers and sojourners with me."—*Lev. xxv, 23.*

"I set out on this ground, which I suppose to be self-evident, that the earth belongs in usufruct to the living."—*Jefferson.*

"The most undone being in the limits of Judea had still a hold in the land. His ruin could not be final—in the last extremity, he could not be scorned as one whose birthright was extinguished."—*Croly's Jubilee.*

"I am now reduced to a thousand acres, and I exult in the diminution, since the happiness of others is promoted by participation."—*Lafayette.*

"To afford every American citizen of enterprise the opportunity of securing an independent freehold, it seems to me best to abandon the idea of raising a future revenue out of the public lands."—*Jackson's Message, 1832.*

To the Congress of the United States:

The undersigned, citizens of the United States,

RESPECTFULLY REPRESENT:

That, in their opinion, the system of land traffic, imported to this country from Europe, is wrong in principle; that it is fast debasing us to the condition of dependent tenants, of which condition a rapid increase of inequality, misery, pauperism, vice, and crime are the necessary consequences; and that therefore now, in the infancy of the republic, we should take effectual measures to eradicate the evil, and establish a principle more in accordance with our republican theory, as laid down in the declaration of independence; to which end we propose that the general government shall no longer traffic, nor permit traffic, in the public lands yet in its possession, and that they shall be laid out in farms and lots for the free use of such citizens (not possessed of other lands) as will occupy them, allowing the settler the right to dispose of his possessions to any one *not possessed of*

other land; and that the jurisdiction of the public lands be transferred to States or Territories only on condition that such a disposition should be made of them.

Citizens of Milton, Santa Rosas county, West Florida, and its vicinity.

Samuel C. Keyser,
Wm. N. Stringer,
John H. Keyser,
Stephen F. Phillips,
J. Orrouk,
John H. Graham,
Nathaniel Townsend,
G. M. Hamilton,
Wm. B. Gaines,
Wm. Dixon,
Wm. McKain,
S. I. Hopper,
M. N. Snowden,
J. Y. Rush,
F. G. Tinsley,
Hillary B. Jarvis,
W. H. Whetmire,
Samuel Barry,
J. R. Mims,
Thomas Sills,
Daniel Urquhart,
S. S. Fountain,
George Perry,
John Milligin,
Nicholas Dun,
Samuel Jarvis,
Theo. Fay,
Nicholas Schools
R. W. McCaine,
David Gleason,
Francis Gillette,
Asy Boonen,
Uriah Evens,
Christopher Keys,
Geo. Thorn,
L. M. Green,
Henry Beach,
Stephen Williams,
Michael Durand,
T. Degrew,
J. V. Tibbetts,
Enoch March,
Allen Graham,
H. L. Savage,
Walter Nichols,
Peter Gillespie,

William Gilchrist,
Alonzo H. Fisk,
Daniel Nash,
Lewis Whisworth,
E. P. Piburn,
Wm. McVoy,
Milton Narine,
Samuel Spears,
A. S. Hamilton,
Francis Ryan,
Rufus M. Milligan,
James Moseley,
Joseph Golcher,
James Miller,
Archibald Pyburn
A. Shepard,
Allen Blalock,
R. H. Mayo,
Joseph C. Milligan,
Anson Clarke,
Moses Earl,
David Mosely,
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William Carteen, jun.,
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Austin Packerd,
Amos Joslyne,
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Anson J. Thompson,
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Benjamin Austin,
C. L. Swan,
Mark Newman,
Isaac Journagann.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FRIENDS HELD AT ST. JES.

Prepared for an immediate consideration of the report

Presented at the

Annual Meeting

1847

A memorial from Ohio yearly meeting to Friends, held at St. J. M. S. on the 24th of the month of May, 1847.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

The Ohio yearly meeting, being now assembled, and having in view to a very feeling manner the weakness of the arm of our country, and being fully convinced of the necessity of the war now being waged against the rights of Man, and that a more full and open discussion of the principles, facts, and principles, would be necessary to the power of our country to put an end to the war, and to speak to the people, we have the honor to call on you, and to all who are interested in the cause of the oppressed.

Respectfully presented on behalf of the meeting

GEORGE COPE

MARY ANN UPDEGRAFF

Printed at St. J. M. S.

